

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00594 201338Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 AID-05
ACDA-07 /082 W
-----201342 118431 /53

O R 201255Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3692
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0594

DEPT PASS OAU POSTS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PORT, OAU
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS - OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTER MEETING,
LOME FEB 22-26

REF: KHARTOUM 0540

1. FONMIN KHALID CONFIRMED TO AMBASSADOR FEB 19 THAT GOS
DOES NOT WANT TO COMPLICATE TENSIONS WITH ETHIOPIA AT
LOME MEETING, PROVIDING EPMG EXHIBITS SIMILAR RESTRAINT.
AMBASSADOR NOTED USG HOPES SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA CAN AVOID
PUBLIC POLEMICS AND SEEK WORK OUT THEIR PROBLEMS AS GOOD
NEIGHBORS (STATE 019584). KHALID RESPONDED THAT
BENIN IS TO RAISE PROBLEM OF MERCENARIES IN AFRICA
AND THAT GOS WILL "HAVE TO" REPORT ON ITS EXPERIENCES
DURING ABORTIVE COUP HERE LAST JULY. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED
GOS WOULD NOT PUSH ISSUE OF TRANSFERRING OAU HEAD-
QUARTERS. MEANWHILE, ON ERITREAN ISSUE, KHALID HIMSELF
HAS BACKED OFF FROM NIMEIRI'S MORE EXTREME
POSITION BY STATING PUBLICLY IN COURSE HIS RETURN
FROM RIYADH THAT "ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES MUST
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REALIZE ONLY SOLUTION TO ERITREAN ISSUE IS PEACEFUL
SOLUTION" AND "(ERITREAN) QUESTION CANNOT BE DEALT
WITH BY FORCE OR COERCION".

2. FEB 20 SAHAFA COLUMN NOTES OUTLAWING MERCENARY
ACTIVITY IS TOPIC ON OAU AGENDA, DESCRIBING THIS
ACTIVITY AS "ONE OF GREATEST DANGERS TO AFRICAN

NATIONS".

3. WHILE SO FAR UNMENTIONED PUBLICLY, UNDERSTAND
BENIN DELEGATION VISITED HERE QUIETLY FEB 14-15,
PRESUMABLY TO COORDINATE POSITIONS ON MERCENARY
ITEM PRIOR LOME MEETING. DELEGATION WAS REPORTEDLY
RECEIVED BY VP BAGHIR (NIMEIRI HAD CANCELLED APPOINT-
MENTS AND WAS RESTING).

4. SINCE MAIN FOCUS GOS WRATH IN IMMEDIATE WAKE
ABORTIVE COUP WAS LIBYA, NOT ETHIOPIA, GOS DISCUS-
ION OF THIS EVENT AT LOME CAN PERHAPS BE HANDLED WITHOUT
EXACERBATING GOS/EPMG TENSIONS. BREWER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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